



Oct 5, 2020

Directors,

After much consideration, we have decided to cancel the 2021 Clark Terry - Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Festival. With many uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we feel it is in the best interests of participating schools, students, faculty, and staff to err on the side of safety. This was not an easy decision because we very much enjoy hosting you at this event each year. However, we feel this is a necessary decision in the wake of the pandemic to “**protect the nest**” and all our students.

With your help, this festival has grown in size every year, becoming known as a premier student jazz event in the region. We don't want to miss the chance to collaborate with you, so we will be providing directors and students with video resources from some fantastic guest artists and clinicians. These materials will be available in February 2021 via the jazz festival website at semo.edu/music/festivals/jazz. These resources should help aid you in the development of your jazz ensembles and professional development as jazz educators.

We look forward to hosting you back on our beautiful River Campus for the Clark Terry - Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Festival in February 2022. We are excited about future guest artists, clinicians and masterclasses that we are already planning to bring to the region.

We hope you and your families stay safe during this unprecedented time in our country.

For more information about Southeast's response to COVID-19, please visit semo.edu/covid. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Dr. Joseph L. Jefferson
Southeast Missouri State University
Clark Terry – Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Festival, Director